

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652 : NA

TAGS : BEXP, NI

SUBJ : MARKET INFORMATION FOR AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT

REF : STATE 202997

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION PROVIDED BY AMCONSUL KADUNA IS
IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRES IN REFTTEL.

2. ACCORDING TO KADUNA STATE MINISTRY OF TRADE, LAND RATES
FOR PLOTS IN KADUNA INDUSTRIAL AREAS SET AT NAIRA 200 (DOLS320)
PER ACRE PER ANNUM PLUS N40 (DOLS65) PER ACRE PER ANNUM FOR
RAILWAY SIDING FACILITY.

3. SMALL FARM CROPS ARE PRINCIPALLY TRANSPORTED TO MARKETS
ON BICYCLES, DONKEYS, OR BY HAND, DEPENDING ON QUANTITIES
INVOLVED. TRUCKS USED ONLY FOR LONG DISTANCES AS IN CARRYING
VEGETABLES FROM KANO TO KADUNA.

4. RECENT POPULATION ESTIMATES OF MAJOR CITIES IN NORTHERN
NIGERIA RANGE FROM 500,000 TO ONE MILLION FOR KANO; 250,000
TO 500,000 FOR KADUNA; AND 150,000 TO 250,000 FOR JOS.
CONSULATE UNABLE VERIFY CORRECT ESTIMATES, BUT WOULD NOT BE
SURPRISED IF HIGHEST FIGURES REASONABLY ACCURATE.

5. SMALL FARMERS TYPICALLY OBTAIN CREDIT FOR PURCHASING
AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY THROUGH THEIR COOPERATIVE UNIONS WHICH
ARE IN TURN FINANCED FROM THE COOPERATIVE BANK AND THE NIGERIAN
AGRICULTURAL BANK. WELL KNOWN FARMERS OBTAIN SHORT-TERM CREDIT
DIRECTLY FROM THE EQUIPMENT DEALERS.

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YM NIGERIA'S MAIN CROP IMPORTS IN RECENT YEARS HAVE BEEN WHEAT,
SUGAR, AND RICE. LOCAL PRODUCTION OF THESE SHOULD INCREASE
SIGNIFICANTLY AFTER 1980, HOWEVER, WHEN SEVERAL PLANNED
IRRIGATION SCHEMES BEGIN OPERATION.
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